

Press Release

HARFORD COUNTY GOVERNMENT

Office of the County Executive



PUBLIC SAFETY

"Ensuring a Safe
Harford"

EDUCATION

"Preparing Now,
Building for the Future"

EFFICIENCY IN GOVERNMENT

"Governing Smarter"

ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY

"Growing and Sustaining
Harford's Prosperity"

ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP

"Protecting Our
Environment"

QUALITY LIVING

"Safeguarding What is
Important to Harford
County Citizens"

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County Executive David R. Craig Announces Completion of the Abingdon Water Treatment Plant Expansion Project

Another major infrastructure project completed

(Abingdon, MD) - - Harford County Executive David R. Craig, joined by Mayor Michael Bennett from the City of Aberdeen, members of the Harford County Council and others cut the ceremonial ribbon marking the official completion of the Abingdon Water Treatment Plant expansion. The \$70.3 million capital project was completed in May following a three-year construction process.

The expansion of the Abingdon Water Treatment Plant was initially approved in July 2005. Final design, preliminary engineering and negotiation of standards for the project were completed in October 2008. Construction of the facility commenced in January 2009 and required an extensive three phase construction process to include a new tap into Baltimore City's 108-inch diameter raw water line, a 115-inch diameter tunnel under I-95 which includes various raw and finish water transmission mains; upgrade to sewer along Bynum Run Interceptor; a new raw water screening process; the addition of two 1 million gallon emergency lagoons with pumping station; conversion of the existing 10 million gallon a day plant to conventional treatment plant; and upgraded security system among many other new processes.

The purpose of the project was to double the water treatment capacity at the Abingdon Water Treatment Plant. The original plant capacity was 10 million gallons a day. The recently completed expansion of the facility raised the capacity to 20 million gallons a day.

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“Ensuring a strong cost-effective up-to-date infrastructure has been one of my highest priorities since I first took office in 2005. Nothing impacts so many aspects of a county as infrastructure”, stated County Executive David R. Craig. “The completion of the Abingdon Water Treatment Plant expansion helps us in our on-going efforts of providing environmental stewardship by protecting our environment, and supporting continued economic growth while enhancing the quality of living by ensuring reliable drinking water to more than 43,000 customers as well as partial water capacity to the City of Aberdeen, the Maryland American Water Company, which services the Town of Bel Air and Greenridge Utilities, Inc., which serves the Greenridge community,” Craig remarked.

The expansion project will assist Harford County in providing a 1.5 million gallon back-up water source for the Aberdeen Proving Ground during times of emergency drought conditions.

The initial Abingdon Water Treatment Plant was constructed in 1994. The original facility was designed with two surface water sources; the Loch Raven Reservoir and the Susquehanna River. The recently completed project was constructed to provide ease for future expansion and flexibility to meet the growing needs for water supply and treatment requirements.

Arcadis US of Columbia, Maryland was the Construction Manager for the project. Hazen & Sawyer of Baltimore served as the Engineer and PC Construction Company of South Burlington, Vermont was the General Contractor.

The expansion project required more than 500,000 staff hours and included more than 130 vendors and suppliers. Additionally, more than 500 personnel were involved directly in the construction process.

“The Abingdon Water Treatment Plant expansion was a critical capital project to help ensure safe and reliable drinking water for the citizens of Harford County, and a key element in ensuring continued economic and growth for many years to come,” County Executive Craig stated. “This project reflects our long-standing commitment of improving the infrastructure of Harford County to support residential, commercial and business growth for our county and thus maintain a strong and vibrant economy,” Craig commented.